The allegation by monopolistic cable providers that they can only provide options in packages is ridiculous. If this fact were the case, then how come the providers give options of additional channels, such as HBO, Showtime, etc. with no additional equipment? With the use of digital cable boxes, the cable providers can turn on and off features remotely with ease - including access to certain cable channels. The 'expense' would be to more accurately reflect the cost of providing channels that probably should not exist because no one wants them - an easy way for cable providers to get some extra ad revenue. It is bad enough when consumers only have one option for cable - but to be subject to monopolistic practices is business gone too far.